AMENDMENT

In the CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 7-12 and 26-27.

Please cancel Claims 6 and 23-25.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for creating a vertical search engine, comprising:

receiving a list of a plurality of keywords to be used for the vertical search engine on a network device **with one or more processors**, wherein the list of keywords includes general and specific keywords for a selected subject;

processing the list of plurality of keywords to create a refined list of keywords, wherein the processing includes adding, subtracting or modifying automatically the list of plurality of keywords;

creating a plurality of first index files associated with a plurality of first data files by checking a plurality of domain names from a plurality of domain name files associated with a domain name system for a computer network, wherein the plurality of first index files include a plurality of pointers to the associated data files, and wherein the plurality of first data files include a plurality of entries including electronic information extracted from a plurality of web-sites associated with a plurality of active domain names from the plurality of domain name files**,**

wherein creating the plurality of first index files includes opening a plurality of top-level domain name files associated with the domain name system for the computer network,

checking a plurality of domain names from the plurality of open top-level domain name files to determine whether any of the plurality of domain names are associated with an active web-site on the computer network,

extracting domain names in the plurality of open top-level domain name files associated with active web-sites on the computer network,

storing the extracted domains names in a plurality of entries in a plurality of separate files, thereby creating a plurality of separate files including the plurality of entries, and

sorting each of the plurality of separate files based on a pre-determined sorting scheme to create a plurality of sorted separate files;

creating a plurality of second index files with associated plurality of second data files by searching the plurality of first index files for keywords from the refined list of keywords, wherein the plurality of second index files include a plurality of pointers to the associated plurality of second data files, and wherein the plurality of second data files include a plurality of entries including electronic information extracted from a plurality of web-sites associated with the plurality of active domain names for keywords from the refined list of keywords;

verifying **automatically** that entries in the plurality of second index files are appropriate for the selected subject;

creating a final index from the plurality of entries first index; and

making a vortal accessible on another network device **with one or more processors** via the computer network for the selected subject using the final index**, wherein the final index for the vortal provides greater depth-than-breath searches for the selected subject for the vertical search engine and**

using the vortal from a plurality of client network devices each with one or more processors via the computer network as a vertical search

engine that provides greater depth-than-breath searches for search subject selected via a client network device.

2. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising a computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processor to execute the steps of the method.

3. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 wherein the domain name system for the computer network includes the Domain Name System for the Internet.

4. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 wherein the plurality of entries including electronic information extracted from a plurality of web-sites associated with a plurality of active domain names from the plurality of domain name files include a title, description, a uniform resource locator, or a pre-determined amount of electronic content associated with a web-site associated with an active domain name.

5. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 wherein the processing step includes:

eliminating keywords that are too generic or have multiple meanings;

modifying keywords by adding alternative spellings or additional words; and

adding automatically synonyms for keywords to the list of plurality of keywords to create the refined list of keywords.

6. (**Canceled**).

7. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim ~~6~~ 1 wherein the step of opening a plurality of top-level domain name files associated with a domain name system including opening a .COM, .EDU, .GOV, .MIL, .NET or .ORG top-level domain name file associated with the Internet domain name system.

8. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim ~~6~~ 1 wherein the checking step includes attempting to visit a web-site on the computer network with a software spider to determine whether the web-site is active.

9. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim ~~6~~ 1 wherein the checking step includes extracting electronic content from an active web-site on the computer network.

10. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim ~~6~~ 1 wherein the extracting step includes:

(a) adding a first individual character component to a first file based on the first character of an entry, when the first individual character component was derived from an entry in one of the plurality of open top-level domain name files;

(b) moving the first character of the first individual character component to an end of the first individual character component, thereby exposing a next

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character and creating a next individual character component;

(c) adding the next individual character component to a next file based on the next character of the first individual character component;

(d) moving the next character of the next individual character component to an end of the next individual character component, thereby exposing a (next character+1) and creating a (next character+1) individual character component;

(e) adding the (next character+1) individual character component to a (next charater+1) file based on the (next character+1) of the (next character+1) individual character component;

(f) repeating steps (d) and (e) until first character of the first individual character component is reached.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 6̶ 1 wherein the storing step includes storing the plurality of individual character components in a plurality of separate files including one file for each letter of the English alphabet (A-Z), and the numbers zero through nine.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 6̶ 1 wherein the sorting step includes sorting each of the plurality of separate files based on an ASCII value of characters stored in the plurality of separate files.

13. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of creating a plurality of first index files includes:

(a) selecting a keyword from the refined list of keywords;

(b) determining whether the selected keyword comprises multiple words, and if so,

(c) selecting a word with the greatest number of individual characters from the multiple words comprising the selected keyword,

(d) opening a one of a plurality of sorted separate files based on a first character of the selected word from the selected keyword, wherein the plurality of sorted separate file were created by indexing a plurality of domain name files associated with a domain name system for the refined list of keywords, and

(e) searching the open sorted separate file for the selected word from the selected keyword,

(f) repeating steps (c) through (e) for remaining words in the selected keyword;

and if not,

(g) opening a one of a plurality of sorted separate files based on a first character of the selected keyword, wherein the plurality of sorted separate file were created by indexing a plurality of domain name files associated with a domain name system for the refined list of keywords, and

(h) searching the open sorted separate file for the selected keyword;

(i) determining whether the selected keyword has been found in the open separate sorted, file, and if so,

(j) adding an entry to a first index file for the selected keyword;

(k) repeating steps (a), (b) and (i) for remaining keywords from the refined list of keywords.

14.-22. (Canceled).

23.-25. (Canceled).

26. (**Currently Amended**) A method for creating a vertical search engine, comprising:

receiving a list of a plurality of keywords to be used for the vertical search engine on a network device, wherein the list of keywords includes general and specific keywords for a selected subject;

processing the list of plurality of keywords to create a refined list of keywords, wherein the processing includes adding, subtracting or modifying automatically the list of plurality of keywords;

creating a plurality of first index files associated with a plurality of first data files by checking a plurality of domain names from a plurality of domain name files associated with a domain name system for a computer network, wherein the plurality of first index files include a plurality of pointers to the associated data files, and wherein the plurality of first data files include a plurality of entries including

electronic information extracted from a plurality of web-sites associated with a

plurality of active domain names from the plurality of domain name files,

wherein the plurality of domain name files include a .COM, .EDU,

.GOV, .MIL, .NET and .ORG top-level domain name file associated with an

Internet domain name system,

wherein the step of creating the plurality of first index files includes:

opening a plurality of top-level domain name files associated with the domain

name system for the computer network;

checking a plurality of domain names from the plurality of open top-level

domain name files to determine whether any of the plurality of domain names are

associated with an active web-site on the computer network;

extracting domain names in the plurality of open top-level domain name files

associated with active web-sites on the computer network;

storing the extracted domains names in a plurality of entries in a plurality of

separate files, thereby creating a plurality of separate files including the plurality of

entries; and

sorting each of the plurality of separate files based on a pre-determined

sorting scheme to create a plurality of sorted separate files;

creating a plurality of second index files with associated plurality of second

data files by searching the plurality of first index files for keywords from the refined

list of keywords, wherein the plurality of second index files include a plurality of

pointers to the associated plurality of second data files, and wherein the plurality of

second data files include a plurality of entries including electronic information

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extracted from a plurality of web-sites associated with the plurality of active domain

names for keywords from the refined list of keywords;

verifying **automatically** that entries in the plurality of second index files are

appropriate for the selected subject;

creating a final index from the plurality of entries first index; and

making a vortal accessible on another network device via the computer

network for the selected subject using the final index.

27. **(Currently Amended)** A method for creating a vertical search engine, comprising:

receiving a list of a plurality of keywords to be used for the vertical search engine on a network device, wherein the list of keywords includes general and specific keywords for a selected subject;

processing the list of plurality of keywords to create a refined list of keywords, wherein the processing includes adding, subtracting or modifying automatically the list of plurality of keywords;

creating a plurality of first index files associated with a plurality of first data files by checking a plurality of domain names from a plurality of domain name files associated with a domain name system for a computer network, wherein the plurality of first index files include a plurality of pointers to the associated data files, and wherein the plurality of first data files include a plurality of entries including electronic information extracted from a plurality of web-sites associated with a plurality of active domain names from the plurality of domain name files, wherein the step of creating a plurality of first index files includes:

(a) selecting a keyword from the refined list of keywords;

(b) determining whether the selected keyword comprises multiple words, and if so,

(c) selecting a word with the greatest number of individual characters from the multiple words comprising the selected keyword,

(d) opening a one of a plurality of sorted separate files based on a first character of the selected word from the selected keyword, wherein the plurality of

sorted separate file were created by indexing a plurality of domain name files

associated with a domain name system for the refined list of keywords, and

       (e) searching the open sorted separate file for the selected word from

the selected keyword,

       (f) repeating steps (c) through (e) for remaining words in the selected

keyword;

    and if not,

       (g) opening a one of a plurality of sorted separate files based on a first

character of the selected keyword, wherein the plurality of sorted separate file were

created by indexing a plurality of domain name files associated with a domain name

system for the refined list of keywords, and

       (h) searching the open sorted separate file for the selected keyword;

    (i) determining whether the selected keyword has been found in the open

separate sorted, file, and if so,

       (j) adding an entry to a first index file for the selected keyword;

    (k) repeating steps (a), (b) and (i) for remaining keywords from the refined list

of keywords, **wherein the plurality of domain name files include a .COM,
.EDU, .GOV, .MIL, .NET or .ORG top-level domain name file associated with
an Internet domain name system**;

    creating a plurality of second index files with associated plurality of second

data files by searching the plurality of first index files for keywords from the refined

list of keywords, wherein the plurality of second index files include a plurality of

pointers to the associated plurality of second data files, and wherein the plurality of

second data files include a plurality of entries including electronic information

extracted from a plurality of web-sites associated with the plurality of active domain

names for keywords from the refined list of keywords;

verifying **automatically** that entries in the plurality of second index files are

appropriate for the selected subject;

creating a final index from the plurality of entries first index; and

making a vortal accessible on another network device via the computer

network for the selected subject using the final index**, wherein the vortal**

provides for efficiently searching an appropriate list of keywords for the

selected subject and provides greater depth-than-breath searches for the

selected subject.